

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/775,205

Applicant(s)

BOATE ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Eleni A. Shiferaw

2136

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 04/23/2007.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-21.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

5. Notice of Informal Patent Application

2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/2/07.

3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment

4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. Other _____.

NASSER MOAZZAMI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

8/2/07

DETAILED ACTION

1. Appeal conference has been filed on 04/23/2007. The appellant's arguments and claims have been fully considered. The examiner called the applicant to include allowable feature to claim 9. Based on the interview examiner's amendment has been made for claim 9.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kent J. Sieffert on 8/2/07.

Claim 9 is amended as follows:

9. (Currently Amended) A security system for controlling access to a computer network at a network access point comprising a workstation, said system comprising:

A. a personal digital identifier device comprising:

(a) a wireless communications component comprising a transceiver;

(b) a biometric acquisition component for obtaining a user's input biometric and producing a digital representation thereof;

(c) a processor configured for communicating with said transceiver and said

biometric component and operable for:

- (i) evaluating whether a template derived from said digital representation corresponds to a master template derived from a user's biometric digital representation previously produced by said biometric component and generating a matching signal when such a correspondence is determined;
- (ii) generating a private key to be held by said personal digital identifier device and a public key corresponding thereto and outputting said generated public key for transmission by said transceiver;
- (iii) producing a digital signature using said private key; and,
- (iv) verifying that an encrypted received message is from a security manager component using a public key for a private key associated with said security manager component; and,

(d) secure storage containing said master template of a user's biometric, said generated private key and said public key for said private key associated with said security manager component,

said personal digital identifier device being configured for producing, using said generated private key, a digitally signed challenge response message following said generating of said matching signal in response to a challenge received from said security manager component and for transmitting said response message, and said personal digital identifier device being configured to prevent transmission of any of said master template of a user's biometric and said private key;

B. a base unit associated with said workstation and configured for initiating and maintaining wireless communications with said personal digital identifier device, said communications extending over an area defined by an envelope associated with said workstation, wherein, during a currently logged-in session of the user associated with the personal digital identifier device, a policy manager component directs the workstation to blank out the screen when a second personal digital identifier device is detected at a location within said envelope until such time as a user registered to said second personal digital identifier device is biometrically identified; and,

C. a central server having access to network storage and utilizing said security manager component and said personal digital identifier device for authenticating said user, said network storage containing a public key corresponding to said private key generated by said personal digital identifier device.

Response to Arguments

3. Appellant's argument regarding the references failure to teach blanking out the display when the second wireless device is detected while the first wireless device is in a logged-in session on the appeal brief is persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-21 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Neither of the references applied teach the applicant's claimed invention wherein, during a currently logged-in session of the user associated with the personal digital identifier device, a

policy manager component directs at least one of the workstations to blank out a respective screen when a unauthorized second personal digital identifier device is detected at a location within an envelope.

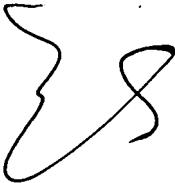
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eleni A. Shiferaw whose telephone number is 571-272-3867. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm.

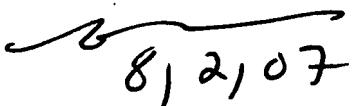
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser R. Moazzami can be reached on (571) 272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



NASSER MOAZZAMI
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

August 2, 2007



8/2/07